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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

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STATE OF MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
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'TWO TOP'

This area is just outside of West Yellowstone, Montana. On a clear day, from atop this mountain, you can see down into Idaho and Wyoming and of course back into Montana. The snow on top at times gets to 10 and 12 foot depths. The trees look like Snow Sculptures, and are truly a sight to see.

Cover Photo by - Joan Eaton

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER 1976

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

Volume 6 Number 11

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
and Bureau of Labor Statistics

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

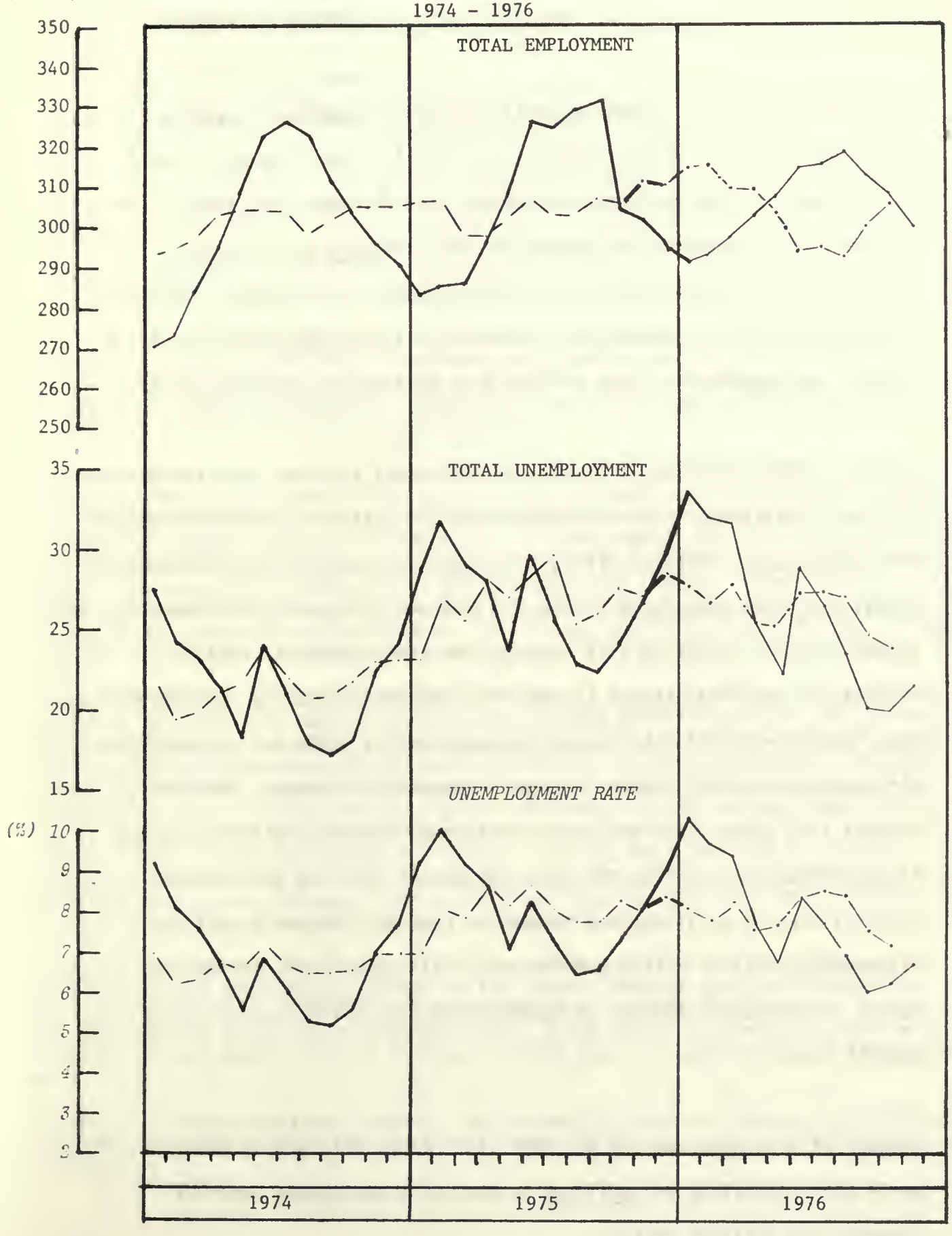
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ——)

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ·-·-)

1974 - 1976



BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES, VS ACTUAL STATE OF MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

The Bureau of Labor statistics compiles national unemployment on the basis of a monthly Current Population Survey (C.P.S.). Twenty-seven states have large enough samples to enable the Bureau to determine those state's unemployment rate. Twenty-three states, in which Montana is included, must determine their unemployment by means of a statistical formula. Because of the difference in methodology, when C.P.S. states are added to non-C.P.S. states, the unemployment rate differs from that of the "National" rate.

Early in 1976 the Office of Management and Budget mandated that the Bureau of Labor Statistics force the aggregate of all states to equal the national C.P.S. estimates. March 4, 1976, this agency was mandated by the Bureau to adjust the state unemployment rate for 1975 and throughout 1976 downward. All states in B. L. S. Region VIII received the same adjustment factors. Analysis of these adjustment factors indicatesthat Montana's unemployment rate would arbitrarily be reduced and end results would be misleading and not representative of Montana's actual economic conditions. Therefore, because this agency owes the public in Montana the most reliable and consistent figures available, Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section will continue to publish what is felt are actual unemployment statistics in this publication. This agency will furnish the Bureau with adjusted figures on required reports, but Montana will not publish them.

Because of the above, Bureau of Labor Statistics publications will not agree with statistics as <u>published</u> by Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET

OCTOBER 1976

Montana's October civilian labor force dropped to 325,700 from September's figure of 330,100. Employment for the State dropped to 305,800 while unemployment dropped to 19,900. Because of our prolonged fall weather in most of the State, the unemployment rate, which reached 6.1% for October, has not increased over the month of September as much as the increase between the same two months during the past four years. The October unemployment rate one year ago was 7.3%.

Non-farm wage and salary jobs (establishment data) for October rose to 247,500 over September's figure of 246,200. The industries that account for this increase are Wholesale and Retail Trade and the local education sector of Government. Local education again had the largest net increase over one month ago, and Services had the largest net increase over October one year ago.

Montana's agriculture industry employment dropped to 30,000 for October. Soil moisture throughout Montana has been short except in the southwest and southcentral counties. This has caused Montana's winter wheat crop condition to be rated only fair in the northern and eastern counties of the State. Montana wheat stocks hit a new record high according to the Montana Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. Wheat stocks totaled 171 million bushels on October 1 - a 17% increase over October 1 one year ago. This was due in part to the larger 1976 production. Only 5% of the wheat held on farms on October 1 has been sold or contracted. This is due partly to the fact that all wheat dropped 26¢ per bushel and the crop index dropped for the third straight month.

Production of crude oil and condensate from the oil and gas areas of Montana averaged 90,309 barrels daily in August, an increase of 1,334 barrels over the July production of 88,975 barrels, as reported in the Montana Oil and Gas Statistical Bulletin. Montana's seven refineries processed 148,788 barrels of crude oil daily in August, up 19 barrels from July and 5,682 barrels in August one year ago. During August, 10 oil wells, 10 gas wells and 30 dry holes were completed. The Board of Oil and Gas Conservation issued 87 permits to drill new wells in August, up 5 permits from July's figure of 82 permits. One of Montana's seven refineries - the Big West Refinery at Kevin - will be closed on or before May 1, 1977. The shutdown is speculated to be due to the crude oil shortage in the area because of the cut-back of Canadian oil sales to the United States. There are presently 41 people employed at the Kevin refinery.

Montana's bank debits increased 23% from September one year ago to September 1976, according to the statistics released by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Only five reporting areas - Sidney, Harlowton, Anaconda, Bozeman, and Helena - showed a decrease in bank debits from September 1975. Great Falls is continuing to show a large increase in bank debits with an increase of 216% over the same period of time one year ago.

October building permits for Montana, not seasonally adjusted, dropped to 692 from September's figure of 834, but are up 7.5% from the October figure of 644 permits one year ago.

Two of Montana's sawmills have ceased operations. One sawmill in Philipsburg which employed about 37 persons shut down because of the depressed lumber market, lack of timber cut and lack of working capital. The other sawmill in Roundup which employed between 130 to 138 people shut down because of the shortage of chip cars, making it not feasible to continue operating. On the positive side, the Missoula wood products mill will be expanded, creating 400 permanent jobs - 150 new jobs at the mill and 250 jobs for forest workers. There are also several new businesses being opened in Montana. A large retail discount department store opened in Havre, supplying 50 jobs for Havre area residents. Another retail store opened in Great Falls supplying an additional 60 jobs for the people in the community. The Minuteman Integrated Program, headquartered at Malmstrom Air Force Base, started Phase II of the program north of Choteau. This project won't be completed until August of 1978, and is expected to produce 650 local jobs.

The initial phase of repair and expansion work at Tiber Dam southwest of Chester should start within the next few months. A contract for the work will be awarded within the next 60 days, with the deadline for the entire project expected to be late 1979 or early 1980. Approximately 50 to 60 workers will be employed by the contractor and there will be a supervisory force of 15 people.

Montana's non-agricultural wage earners worked an average of 35.7 hours per week for the month of October at a rate of $4.95 an hour. Average weekly earnings fell slightly to $176.72 from September's figure of $178.92.

Labor turnover rates showed both the mining and manufacturing accession rates as being substantially higher than the August 1976 figures, but September's separation rates for manufacturing are also up from the figures one month ago.

New passenger cars registered in Montana by county for the month of October totaled 1,617, putting the yearly total through October at 22,464. This is a 2.8% increase over the same period of time one year ago. Yellowstone County had the most new car registrations, followed by Cascade County and Missoula County. There were 996 new trucks registered throughout the State during October for a yearly total through October reaching 14,603.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 1976

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	208	100	1,756
CETA-CEP	58	42	196
CETA-INST.	23	23	262
CETA-OJT	16	15	72
JOB CORPS	49	33	229
PSE	198	116	801
CIP	22	13	266

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.[1/]

(1967 = 100)

Group	Oct. 1976	*Percent Change From:* Sept.1976	Oct. 1975
All Items	173.3	*.4%*	*5.3%*

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED[2/]

OCTOBER 1976

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Covered Unemployment*
Non-White	*3.5%*
Female	*42.9%*
Youth	*13.2%*
Over 45	*24.3%*

1/ The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

2/ Based on 20% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week including the 19th of each month in all local offices.

Table I

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1974								
January	298.1	270.5	245.7	24.8	27.6	*9.2*	*5.6*	.1
February	298.2	273.9	249.1	24.8	24.3	*8.1*	*5.7*	*
March	308.2	284.8	254.5	30.3	23.4	*7.6*	*5.3*	*
April	316.4	295.0	261.0	34.0	21.4	*6.8*	*4.8*	*
May	327.8	309.5	270.0	39.5	18.3	*5.6*	*4.6*	4.0
June	346.8	322.8	277.7	45.1	24.0	*6.9*	*5.8*	2.0
July	347.4	326.4	277.7	48.7	21.0	*6.0*	*5.6*	*
August	341.8	323.9	277.9	46.0	17.9	*5.3*	*5.3*	.2
September	329.7	312.4	275.6	36.8	17.3	*5.2*	*5.7*	*
October	322.3	304.2	269.3	34.9	18.1	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
November	319.3	296.9	266.5	30.4	22.4	*7.0*	*6.2*	.1
December	315.1	291.0	265.2	25.8	24.1	*7.7*	*6.7*	*
1974 Avg.	322.6	301.0	265.9	35.1	21.6	*6 7*	*5.6*	.5
1975								
January	308.7	279.8	253.0	26.8	28.9	*9.4*	*9.0*	*
February	309.6	278.2	250.8	27.4	31.4	*10.2*	*9.1*	.1
March	316.6	287.3	257.1	30.2	29.3	*9.2*	*9.1*	.3
April	320.3	292.3	259.4	32.9	28.0	*8.7*	*8.6*	.2
May	327.9	304.3	267.3	37.0	23.6	*7.2*	*8.3*	.1
June	349.1	319.7	278.9	40.8	29.4	*8.4*	*9.1*	.1
July	346.9	321.3	279.1	42.2	25.6	*7.4*	*8.7*	.2
August	350.9	327.9	280.7	47.2	23.0	*6.6*	*8.2*	*
September	340.2	317.7	279.3	38.4	22.5	*6.6*	*8.1*	.3
October	332.6	308.4	274.4	34.0	24.2	*7.3*	*7.8*	.3
November	332.4	305.8	274.3	31.5	26.6	*8.0*	*7.8*	.2
December	330.7	300.6	271.4	29.2	30.1	*9.1*	*7.8*	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	*8.1*	*8.5*	.1
1976								
January	324.8	291.2	262.4	28.8	33.6	*10.3*	*8.8*	*
February	323.6	292.1	263.3	28.8	31.5	*9.7*	*8.7*	*
March	328.3	297.3	265.8	31.5	31.0	*9.5*	*8.1*	*
April	328.6	302.8	267.8	35.0	25.8	*7.9*	*7.4*	*
May	330.4	308.1	271.0	37.1	22.3	*6.8*	*6.7*	*
June	343.0	314.1	273.0	41.1	28.9	*8.4*	*8.0*	*
July	341.6^{R}	315.3^{R}	275.2^{R}	40.1	26.3	*7.7*^{R}	*7.8*	.1
August	341.4	318.0	273.3	44.7	23.4	*6.9*	*7.6*	.1
September	330.1	309.9	274.3	35.6	20.2	*6.1*	*7.4*	.1
October	325.7	305.8	275.8	30.0	19.9	*6.1*	*7.2*	.1
November	*320.6*	*299.2*	*272.7*	*26.5*	*21.4*	*6.7*		.1
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. R: Revised Series began January 1970.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.
** Under 50. Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1974								
January	31.5	28.6	27.6	1.0	2.9	*9.3*	*9.2*	*
February	31.1	28.7	27.7	1.0	2.4	*7.6*	*8.1*	*
March	31.9	29.6	28.3	1.3	2.3	*7.2*	*7.6*	*
April	32.3	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.0	*6.2*	*6.8*	*
May	32.4	30.4	28.7	1.7	2.0	*6.2*	*5.6*	1.4
June	34.1	31.6	29.6	2.0	2.5	*7.3*	*6.9*	1.2
July	33.9	31.7	29.5	2.2	2.2	*6.4*	*6.0*	*
August	33.8	31.8	29.8	2.0	2.0	*5.8*	*5.3*	*
September	33.2	31.3	29.7	1.6	1.9	*5.6*	*5.2*	*
October	33.1	31.3	29.8	1.5	1.8	*5.5*	*5.6*	*
November	32.1	30.1	28.7	1.4	2.0	*6.3*	*7.0*	*
December	32.2	30.1	29.0	1.1	2.1	*6.6*	*7.7*	*
1974 Avg.	32.7	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.2	*6.7*	*6.7*	.2
1975								
January	31.1	28.5	27.4	1.1	2.6	*8.3*	*9.4*	*
February	31.2	28.2	27.1	1.1	3.0	*9.7*	*10.2*	*
March	31.8	29.0	27.8	1.2	2.8	*8.7*	*9.2*	.1
April	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	*8.3*	*8.7*	.1
May	32.7	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.4	*7.3*	*7.2*	*
June	33.7	30.9	29.3	1.6	2.8	*8.4*	*8.4*	*
July	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	*8.1*	*7.4*	*
August	33.7	31.2	29.3	1.9	2.5	*7.4*	*6.6*	*
September	33.3	30.9	29.4	1.5	2.4	*7.3*	*6.6*	*
October	33.0	30.3	29.0	1.3	2.7	*8.1*	*7.3*	*
November	33.0	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.6	*7.9*	*8.0*	*
December	33.0	30.2	29.0	1.2	2.8	*8.5*	*9.1*	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	*8.2*	*8.1*	*
1976								
January	32.4	29.2	28.1	1.1	3.2	*9.8*	*10.3*	*
February	32.2	29.3	28.2	1.1	2.9	*9.1*	*9.7*	*
March	32.9	29.9	28.7	1.2	3.0	*9.2*	*9.5*	*
April	32.5	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.6	*7.9*	*7.9*	*
May	33.5	31.2	29.7	1.5	2.3	*6.9*	*6.8*	*
June	35.0	31.7	30.1	1.6	3.3	*9.3*	*8.4*	*
July	34.4^{R}	31.5^{R}	29.9^{R}	1.6	2.9	*8.3*^{R}	*7.7*^{R}	*
August	34.2	31.7	29.9	1.8	2.5	*7.2*	*6.9*	*
September	33.5	31.5	30.1	1.4	2.0	*6.1*	*6.1*	*
October	33.3	31.2	30.0	1.2	2.1	*6.3*	*6.1*	*
November	*33.3*	*31.1*	*30.1*	*1.0*	*2.2*	*6.7*	*6.7*	*
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. R: Revised* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1974								
January	44.0	40.6	39.5	1.1	3.4	*7.8*	*9.2*	*
February	43.9	41.3	40.2	1.1	2.6	*5.9*	*8.1*	*
March	44.6	42.2	40.6	1.6	2.4	*5.4*	*7.6*	*
April	45.1	42.9	41.2	1.7	2.2	*4.9*	*6.8*	*
May	45.6	43.6	41.6	2.0	2.0	*4.4*	*5.6*	.5
June	48.1	45.0	42.7	2.3	3.1	*6.3*	*6.9*	.5
July	47.9	45.4	42.9	2.5	2.5	*5.3*	*6.0*	*
August	47.0	44.9	42.5	2.4	2.1	*4.4*	*5.3*	*
September	46.1	44.1	42.2	1.9	2.0	*4.4*	*5.2*	*
October	46.6	44.7	42.9	1.8	1.9	*4.2*	*5.6*	*
November	45.9	43.6	42.0	1.6	2.3	*5.0*	*7.0*	*
December	45.8	43.3	42.0	1.3	2.5	*5.4*	*7.7*	*
1974 Avg.	45.9	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.4	*5.3*	*6.7*	*
1975								
January	45.4	42.0	40.8	1.2	3.4	*7.6*	*9.4*	*
February	45.1	41.5	40.2	1.3	3.6	*8.0*	*10.2*	*
March	45.6	42.0	40.6	1.4	3.6	*7.9*	*9.2*	.1
April	46.8	43.4	41.9	1.5	3.4	*7.3*	*8.7*	*
May	47.1	44.5	42.8	1.7	2.6	*5.6*	*7.2*	*
June	49.0	45.6	43.7	1.9	3.4	*7.0*	*8.4*	*
July	49.5	46.3	44.4	1.9	3.2	*6.5*	*7.4*	*
August	49.2	46.1	43.9	2.2	3.1	*6.2*	*6.6*	*
September	48.5	45.6	43.8	1.8	2.9	*5.9*	*6.6*	.2
October	48.4	45.6	44.0	1.6	2.8	*5.8*	*7.3*	.2
November	49.2	46.4	45.0	1.4	2.8	*5.8*	*8.0*	*
December	48.6	45.4	44.1	1.3	3.2	*6.5*	*9.1*	*
1975 Avg.	47.7	44.5	42.9	1.6	3.2	*6.7*	*8.1*	*
1976								
January	47.4	43.7	42.4	1.3	3.7	*7.9*	*10.3*	*
February	47.1	43.8	42.5	1.3	3.3	*7.1*	*9.7*	*
March	47.5	44.1	42.7	1.4	3.4	*7.2*	*9.5*	*
April	48.3	45.4	43.8	1.6	2.9	*5.9*	*7.9*	*
May	48.1	45.8	44.1	1.7	2.3	*4.8*	*6.8*	*
June	50.7	47.2	45.3	1.9	3.5	*6.9*	*8.4*	*
July	50.4 R	47.2 R	45.4 R	1.8	3.2	*6.3* R	*7.7* R	*
August	49.8	47.1	45.0	2.1	2.7	*5.5*	*6.9*	*
September	50.0	47.6	46.0	1.6	2.4	*4.7*	*6.1*	*
October	50.2	47.9	46.5	1.4	2.3	*4.5*	*6.1*	*
November	*50.8*	*47.9*	*46.7*	*1.2*	*2.9*	*5.7*	*6.7*	*
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. R: Revised* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	OCT. 1976	SEP. 1976	OCT. 1975	Net Changes to Current Month from: SEP. 1976	Net Changes to Current Month from: OCT. 1975
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	325.7	330.1	332.6	-4.4	-6.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS	305.8	309.9	308.4	-4.1	-2.6
Persons Employed in Agriculture	30.0	35.6	34.0	-5.6	-4.0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	19.9	20.2	24.2	-.3	-4.3
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*6.1*	*6.1*	*7.3*	*0*	*-1.2*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*7.2*	*7.7*	*8.3*	*-.5*	*-1.1*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*247.5*	*246.2*	*245.6*	*1.3*	*1.9*
MANUFACTURING	*22.9*	*23.2*	*23.3*	*- .3*	*- .4*
Durable Goods	*14.6*	*14.8*	*14.8*	*- .2*	*- .2*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*8.7*	*8.7*	*9.0*	*0*	*- .3*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.2*	*3.3*	*3.1*	*- .1*	*.1*
Other Durable Goods	*2.7*	*2.8*	*2.7*	*- .1*	*0*
Nondurable Goods	*8.3*	*8.4*	*8.5*	*- .1*	*- .2*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*3.8*	*3.9*	*4.0*	*- .1*	*- .2*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.0*	*1.9*	*2.0*	*.1*	*0*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.2*	*1.2*	*1.1*	*0*	*.1*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.3*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*- .1*	*- .1*
MINING	*6.2*	*6.2*	*6.6*	*0*	*- .4*
10 Metal Mining	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.8*	*0*	*- .5*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*0*	*0*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.1*	*0*	*.1*

CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	11.7	12.0	14.1	- .3	-2.4
15 General Building Contractors	3.9	3.9	5.4	0	-1.5
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	2.9	3.2	3.6	- .3	- .7
17 Special Trade Contractors	4.9	4.9	5.1	0	- .2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	20.1	20.1	19.4	0	.7
40 Railroad Transportation	6.3	6.3	6.1	0	.2
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.2	6.2	5.9	0	.3
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	7.6	7.6	7.4	0	.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	60.9	60.5	60.4	.4	.5
Wholesale Trade	12.6	12.3	12.0	.3	.6
Retail Trade	48.3	48.2	48.4	.1	- .1
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	8.4	8.4	8.7	0	- .3
54 Food Stores	6.8	6.7	6.5	.1	.3
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.9	7.9	8.3	0	- .4
58 Eating and Drinking Places	15.2	15.2	15.0	0	.2
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	10.0	10.0	9.9	0	.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	10.7	10.7	10.3	0	.4
SERVICES	47.5	47.4	44.8	.1	2.7
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	6.1	6.1	5.6	0	.5
72 Personal Services	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	.2
80 Medical and other Health Services	15.4	15.4	14.4	0	1.0
Other Services	23.4	23.3	22.4	.1	1.0
GOVERNMENT	67.5	66.1	66.7	1.4	.8
91 Federal Government	13.8	14.0	14.4	- .2	- .6
92 State Colleges and Universities	9.0	9.0	8.5	0	.5
92 Other State Government	10.4	10.6	10.4	- .2	0
93 Local Education	21.6	19.4	21.1	2.2	.5
93 Other Local Government	12.7	13.1	12.3	- .4	.4

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

OCTOBER 1976

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	OCT. 1976	SEP. 1976	OCT. 1975	Net Changes to Current Month from: SEP. 1976	Net Changes to Current Month from: Oct. 1975
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	33.3	33.5	33.0	-.2	.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	31.2	31.5	30.3	-.3	.9
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.2	1.4	1.3	-.2	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.1	2.0	2.7	.1	-.6
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*6.3*	*6.1*	*8.1*	*.2*	*-1.8*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*7.1*	*6.9*	*9.0*	*.2*	*-1.9*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*28.7*	*28.8*	*27.5*	*-.1*	*1.2*
MANUFACTURING	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*0*	*0*
Contract Construction	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.6*	*0*	*.2*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*0*	*0*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*8.7*	*8.8*	*8.3*	*-.1*	*.4*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*6.8*	*6.8*	*6.1*	*0*	*.7*
Government	*5.7*	*5.7*	*5.9*	*0*	*-.2*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*
2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

Table VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

OCTOBER 1976

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	OCT. 1976	SEP. 1976	OCT. 1975	Net Changes to Current Month from: SEP. 1976	OCT. 1975
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	50.2	50.0	48.4	.2	1.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	47.9	47.6	45.6	.3	2.3
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.4	1.6	1.6	-.2	- .2
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.3	2.4	2.8	-.1	- .5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*4.5*	*4.7*	*5.8*	*-.2*	*-1.3*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*5.4*	*5.4*	*6.7*	*0*	*-1.3*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*41.8*	*41.3*	*39.7*	*.5*	*2.1*
MANUFACTURING	*4.1*	*3.7*	*3.5*	*.4*	*.6*
Contract Construction	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*0*	*.1*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*0*	*0*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*13.6*	*13.2*	*13.0*	*.4*	*.6*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.0*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*8.4*	*8.6*	*8.3*	*-.2*	*.1*
Government	*7.9*	*8.0*	*7.3*	*-.1*	*.6*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Aug. 1976	Sep. 1976	Oct. 1976	Aug. 1976	Sep. 1976	Oct. 1976	Aug. 1976	Sep. 1976	Oct. 1976	Aug. 1976	Sep. 1976	Oct. 1976
STATEWIDE	341.4	330.1	325.7	318.0	309.9	305.8	23.4	20.2	19.9	6.9	6.1	6.1
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.2	33.5	33.3	31.7	31.5	31.2	2.5	2.0	2.1	7.2	6.1	6.3
BILLINGS SMSA	49.8	50.0	50.2	47.1	47.6	47.9	2.7	2.4	2.3	5.5	4.7	4.5
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	257.4	246.6	242.2	239.2	230.8	226.7	18.2	15.8	15.5	7.1	6.4	6.4
ANACONDA-BUTTE	37.7	35.9	35.0	33.7	32.7	32.3	4.0	3.2	2.7	10.7	8.9	7.6
BOZEMAN	24.9	23.9	23.5	23.6	22.7	22.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	5.4	5.2	5.5
GLASGOW	16.9	16.0	15.9	16.1	15.4	15.1	.8	.6	.8	4.5	3.9	5.1
GLENDIVE	13.8	13.3	13.1	13.4	12.9	12.6	.5	.4	.5	3.5	3.2	3.9
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.3	10.8	10.6	10.7	10.3	10.1	.6	.5	.5	5.3	4.3	4.3
HAVRE	12.5	11.9	11.7	11.9	11.3	11.1	.7	.6	.6	5.4	4.6	4.9
HELENA	22.3	21.7	21.4	20.9	20.4	20.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	6.0	5.9	6.1
KALISPELL	33.1	31.8	31.1	30.0	29.0	28.5	3.1	2.8	2.6	9.3	8.8	8.4
LEWISTOWN	11.4	10.8	10.6	10.8	10.4	10.2	.5	.4	.4	4.8	3.9	3.9
MILES CITY	13.9	13.4	13.1	13.2	12.8	12.5	.7	.6	.6	4.8	4.4	4.6
MISSOULA	41.2	39.9	39.3	37.5	36.4	35.9	3.7	3.5	3.4	9.0	8.8	8.7
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.4	17.2	16.9	17.4	16.5	16.1	1.0	.7	.8	5.5	4.3	4.9

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Oct. 1976	Oct 1975	Percent Change 1975-1976	Oct. 1976	Oct. 1975	Percent Change 1975-1976	Oct. 1976	Oct 1975	Net Change 1975-1976	Oct. 1976	Oct. 1975	Net Change 1975-1976
STATEWIDE	325.7	332.6	-2.1	305.8	308.4	- .8	19.9	24.2	-4.3	6.1	7.3	-1.2
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.3	33.0	.9	31.2	30.3	3.0	2.1	2.7	- .6	6.3	8.1	-1.8
BILLINGS SMSA	50.2	48.4	3.7	47.9	45.6	5.0	2.3	2.8	- .5	4.5	5.8	-1.3
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	242.2	251.2	-3.6	226.7	232.5	-2.5	15.5	18.7	-3.2	6.4	7.4	-1.0
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.0	36.5	-4.1	32.3	33.1	-2.4	2.7	3.4	- .7	7.6	9.3	-1.7
BOZEMAN	23.5	24.5	-4.1	22.2	22.8	-2.6	1.3	1.7	- .4	5.5	6.9	-1.4
GLASGOW	15.9	16.4	-3.0	15.1	15.4	-1.9	.8	1.0	- .2	5.1	6.1	-1.0
GLENDIVE	13.1	13.6	-3.7	12.6	13.0	-3.1	.5	.6	- .1	3.9	4.4	- .5
HARDIN-RED LODGE	10.6	10.9	-2.8	10.1	10.4	-2.9	.5	.5	0	4.3	4.6	- .3
HAVRE	11.7	12.1	-3.3	11.1	11.4	-2.6	.6	.7	- .1	4.9	5.3	- .9
HELENA	21.4	21.7	-1.4	20.1	20.7	-2.9	1.3	1.0	.3	6.1	4.6	1.5
KALISPELL	31.1	33.0	-5.8	28.5	29.2	-2.4	2.6	3.8	-1.2	8.4	11.5	-3.1
LEWISTOWN	10.6	10.9	-2.8	10.2	10.4	-1.9	.4	.5	- .1	3.9	4.6	- .7
MILES CITY	13.1	13.5	-3.0	12.5	12.9	-3.1	.6	.6	0	4.6	4.4	.2
MISSOULA	39.3	40.7	-3.4	35.9	36.7	-2.2	3.4	4.0	- .6	8.7	9.8	-1.1
SHELBY-CUT BANK	10.9	17.4	-2.9	16.1	16.5	-2.4	.8	.9	- .1	4.9	5.2	- .3

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Table IX

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

OCTOBER 1976

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:					
	OCT.1/ 1976	SEP. 1976	OCT. 1975	SEP. 1976	OCT. 1975	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
						OCTOBER 1976		OCTOBER 1975	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	101.4	99.5	96.9	1.9	4.5	247.5	*40.9*	245.6	*39.5*
Manufacturing	3.1	3.0	2.8	.1	.3	22.9	*13.5*	23.3	*12.0*
Nonmanufacturing									
Mining	.3	.3	.3	0	0	6.2	*4.8*	6.6	*4.5*
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.9	0	- .1	11.7	*6.8*	14.1	*6.4*
Transportation & Public Utilities .	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- .1	20.1	*17.4*	19.4	*18.6*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	26.2	26.1	25.2	.1	1.0	60.9	*43.0*	60.4	*41.7*
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	6.8	6.8	6.3	0	.5	10.7	*63.6*	10.3	*61.2*
Services	29.9	29.8	28.1	.1	1.8	47.5	*62.9*	44.8	*62.7*
Government 2/	30.8	29.2	29.7	1.6	1.1	67.5	*45.6*	66.7	*44.5*

1/ Current month preliminary. Revised to 1975 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 1974.

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1975

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	88.6	88.9	91.2	92.5	95.0	97.6	95.4	95.3	97.3	96.9	98.2	98.4	94.6
Manufacturing	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	86.3	86.6	88.9	90.2	92.6	95.0	92.7	92.7	94.7	94.1	95.5	95.8	92.1
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.7	.7	.8	.8	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.8
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	22.6	21.9	22.8	24.1	25.1	25.8	26.3	27.0	27.1	25.2	25.5	26.0	24.9
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.2
Services	26.4	26.2	27.1	27.2	28.3	29.4	29.4	29.7	28.9	28.1	28.0	28.3	28.1
Government[1]/	27.0	28.2	28.6	28.5	28.6	28.9	25.9	24.9	27.5	29.7	31.0	30.4	28.3

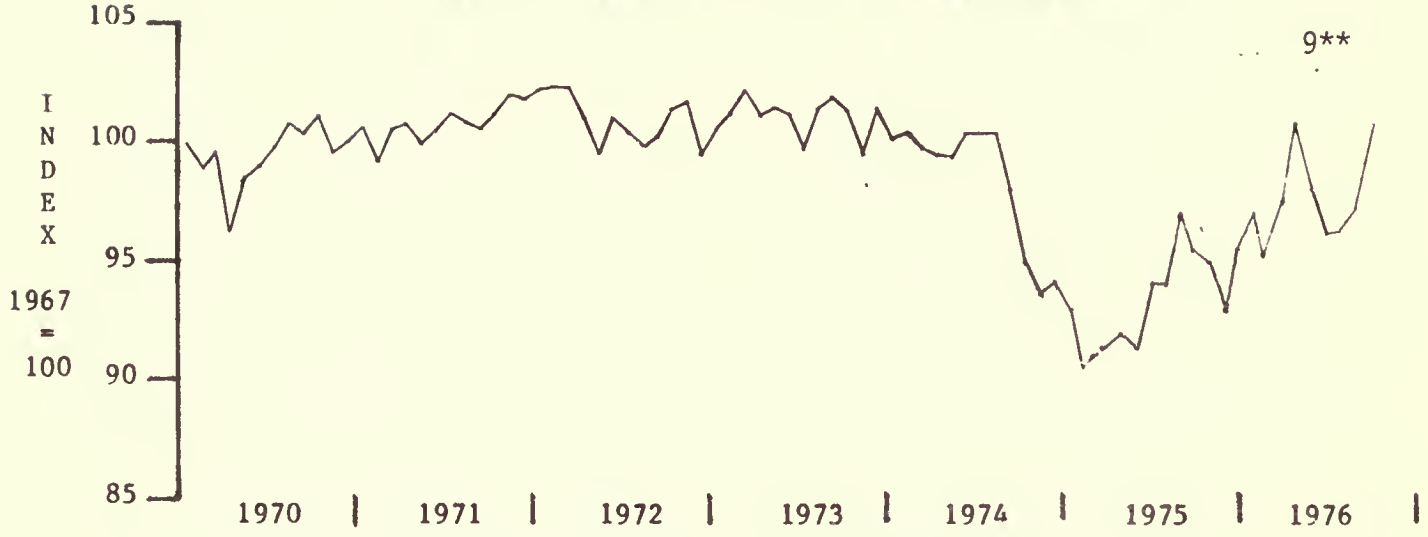
1976

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	95.5	95.4	96.5	97.6	98.7	98.9	99.0	98.4	99.5
Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.3	23.0	23.8	24.7	25.2	25.5	26.1	25.9	26.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8
Services	28.3	28.3	28.5	28.6	28.8	28.9	29.4	29.5	29.8
Government[1]/	30.3	30.5	30.6	30.6	30.8	30.3	29.1	28.5	29.2

1/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1975 Benchmark.*
Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX LEADING INDICATORS*



Composite Index of SIX LEADING INDICATORS 1967 = 100

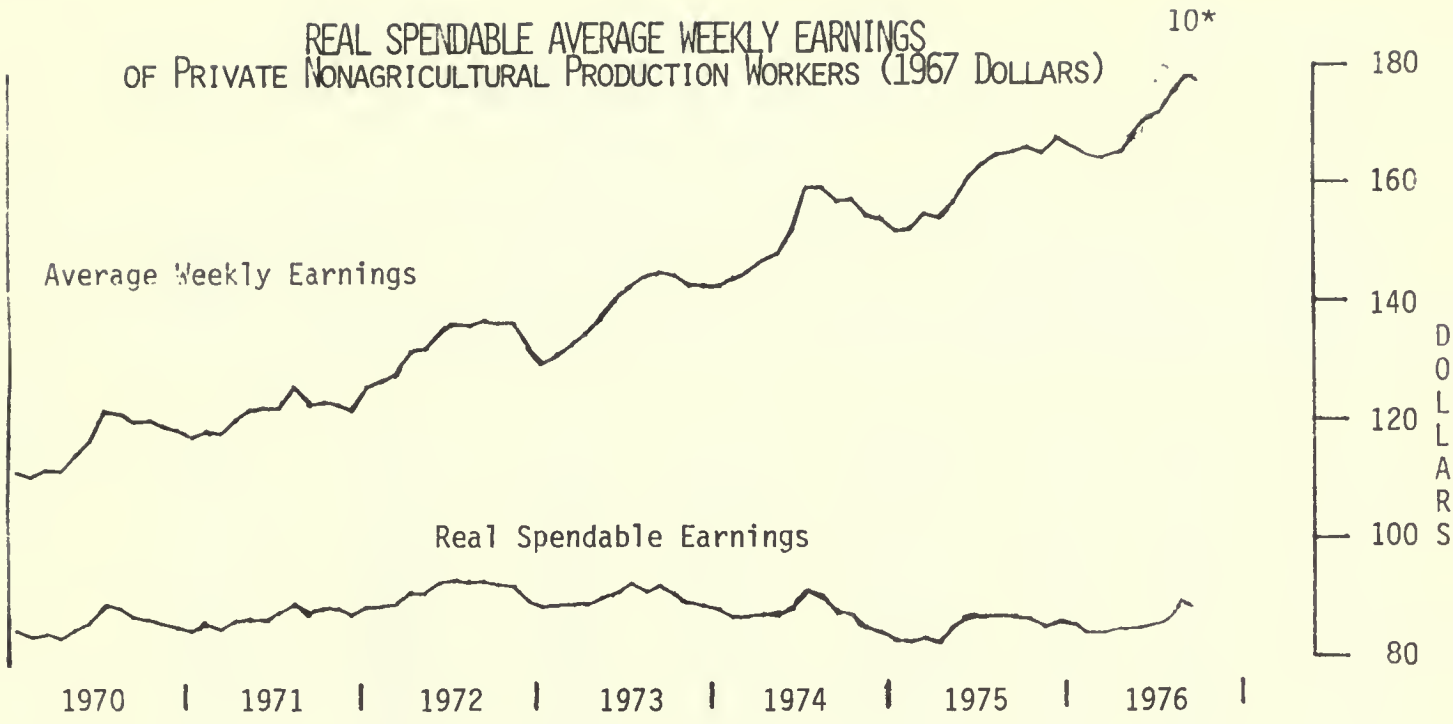
1975	
January	92.7
February	90.3
March	91.0
April	91.6
May	91.0
June	93.7
July	93.7
August	96.7
September	95.2
October	94.8
November	92.7
December	95.3
1976	
January	96.8
February	95.0
March	97.4
April	100.5
May	97.7
June	95.7
July	95.9
August	96.9
September	100.9
October	
November	
December	

MONTANA's COMPOSITE INDEX

With all indicators displaying positive trends, the September Composite Index gained four points over last month's index - to 100.9. This is the highest value recorded since December 1973. Building permits and weekly initial claims were the strongest trend leaders over last month, with increases of 5.9% and 14.6% respectively. Preliminary indications show only a slight decline in the Composite Index for October.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*



	Oct. 1976	Sep. 1976	Oct. 1975
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	$176.72	$178.92	$165.98
Taxes Withheld	26.87	27.52	23.63
Spendable Earnings	149.85	151.40	142.35
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	63.38	63.68	55.87
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	86.47	87.72	86.48

1975	Average Weekly Earnings 1/	Real Spendable Earnings 2/
JUL	163.52	86.63
AUG.	165.07	87.04
SEP.	165.53	86.81
OCT.	165.98	86.48
NOV.	165.34	85.67
DEC.	167.81	86.36
1976		
JAN.	165.89	85.35
FEB.	164.98	84.77
MAR.	163.70	84.02
APR.	165.50	84.44
MAY	168.84	85.31
JUNE	170.88	85.69
JULY	172.67	85.92
AUG.	175.69	86.77
SEP.	178.92	87.72
OCT.	176.72p	86.47p
NOV.		
DEC.		

Preliminary data indicate that Montanan's Gross Average Weekly Earnings will show a moderate decline from September to October; however, even with this decrease we have realized an increase of $10.83 in average weekly earnings since January of this year. That same trend is reflected in the Real Spendable Earnings for the year with a 1.5% increase since January.

Montana has shown advances in real spendable income in all but three months this year. Nevertheless, we are still considerably below pre-recession levels of Average Weekly Real Spendable Earnings.

* *Indicate last month of plotted data.* *p: Preliminary*

1/ Average weekly earning of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

Table X

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] Montana	Percent[1] U. S.	
1974								
January	315.1	293.2	257.5	35.7	21.9	7.0	5.2	.1
February	314.2	294.7	260.4	34.3	19.5	6.2	5.2	*
March	317.1	297.2	261.8	35.4	19.9	6.3	5.1	*
April	318.6	297.2	265.1	32.1	21.4	6.7	5.0	*
May	325.5	303.9	267.3	36.6	21.6	6.6	5.2	4.0
June	327.8	304.1	267.9	36.2	23.7	7.2	5.2	2.0
July	326.6	304.6	266.5	38.1	22.0	6.7	5.3	*
August	319.2	298.4	267.0	31.4	20.8	6.5	5.4	.2
September	322.6	301.7	270.5	31.2	20.9	6.5	5.8	*
October	327.3	305.6	268.1	37.5	21.7	6.6	6.0	*
November	328.5	305.5	268.7	36.8	23.0	7.0	6.6	.1
December	328.2	305.1	269.1	36.0	23.1	7.0	7.2	*
1974 Avg.	322.6	301.0	265.9	35.1	21.6	6.7	5.6	.5
1975								
January	326.0	303.0	265.8	37.2	23.0	7.0	8.2	*
February	326.4	300.0	263.3	36.7	26.4	8.1	8.2	.1
March	326.0	300.0	265.2	34.8	26.0	8.0	8.7	.3
April	323.2	295.6	262.7	32.9	27.6	8.5	8.9	.2
May	325.6	299.0	265.1	33.9	26.6	8.2	9.2	.1
June	327.4	299.7	267.7	32.0	27.7	8.4	8.6	.1
July	327.8	301.3	268.9	32.4	26.5	8.1	8.4	.2
August	329.3	302.9	270.2	32.7	26.4	8.0	8.4	*
September	333.1	306.3	273.7	32.6	26.8	8.1	8.3	.3
October	336.4	308.4	273.1	35.3	28.0	8.3	8.6	.3
November	341.0	313.0	275.4	37.6	28.0	8.2	8.3	.2
December	343.5	314.0	274.6	39.4	29.5	8.6	8.3	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	8.1	8.5	.1
1976								
January	342.7	315.0	274.6	40.4	27.7	8.1	7.8	*
February	341.1	314.6	275.6	39.0	26.5	7.8	7.6	*
March	337.8	309.9	273.8	36.1	27.9	8.3	7.5	*
April	332.6	307.2	272.2	35.0	25.4	7.6	7.5	*
May	328.2	302.9	269.4	33.5	25.3	7.7	7.3	*
June	320.7	293.6	261.9	31.7	27.1	8.4	7.5	.1
July	321.6[R]	294.4[R]	264.5[R]	29.9	27.2	8.5[R]	7.8	.1
August	319.1	292.2	262.3	29.9	26.9	8.4	7.9	.1
September	322.4	297.7	267.5	30.2	24.7	7.7	7.8	.1
October	329.5	305.7	274.3	31.4	23.8	7.2	7.9	.1
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* R: *Revised* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month preliminary.*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XI

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1974								
January	32.8	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.5	*7.6*	*7.0*	*
February	32.4	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.1	*6.5*	*6.2*	*
March	32.6	30.4	28.9	1.5	2.2	*6.7*	*6.3*	*
April	32.4	30.2	28.8	1.4	2.2	*6.8*	*6.7*	*
May	32.4	30.2	28.6	1.6	2.2	*6.8*	*6.6*	1.4
June	32.5	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.2	*6.8*	*7.2*	1.2
July	32.6	30.5	28.7	1.8	2.1	*6.4*	*6.7*	*
August	32.6	30.5	29.1	1.4	2.1	*6.4*	*6.5*	*
September	32.5	30.5	29.2	1.3	2.0	*6.2*	*6.5*	*
October	33.2	31.1	29.5	1.6	2.1	*6.3*	*6.6*	*
November	32.7	30.5	28.9	1.6	2.2	*6.7*	*7.0*	*
December	32.8	30.6	29.1	1.5	2.2	*6.7*	*6.0*	*
1974 Avg.	32.7	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.2	*6.7*	*6.7*	.2
1975								
January	32.4	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.1	*6.5*	*7.0*	*
February	32.7	30.0	28.5	1.5	2.7	*8.3*	*8.1*	*
March	32.5	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.6	*8.1*	*8.0*	.1
April	32.6	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.8	*8.7*	*8.5*	.1
May	32.4	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.5	*7.8*	*8.2*	*
June	32.2	29.7	28.5	1.2	2.5	*7.8*	*8.4*	*
July	32.4	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.6	*8.2*	*8.1*	*
August	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	*8.2*	*8.0*	*
September	32.7	30.0	28.8	1.2	2.7	*8.2*	*8.1*	*
October	33.0	30.0	28.7	1.3	3.0	*9.0*	*8.3*	*
November	33.6	30.8	29.3	1.5	2.8	*8.3*	*8.2*	*
December	33.4	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.9	*8.8*	*8.6*	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	*8.2*	*8.1*	*
1976								
January	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	*8.0*	*8.1*	*
February	33.6	31.0	29.4	1.6	2.6	*7.7*	*7.8*	*
March	33.7	30.8	29.4	1.4	2.9	*8.6*	*8.6*	*
April	32.5	29.8	28.4	1.4	2.7	*8.3*	*7.6*	*
May	33.1	30.7	29.4	1.3	2.4	*7.3*	*7.7*	*
June	33.3	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.9	*8.8*	*8.4*	*
July	33.1*R*	30.3*R*	29.1*R*	1.2	2.8	*8.4R*	*8.5R*	*
August	33.0	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.6	*8.0*	*8.4*	*
September	32.9	30.6	29.4	1.2	2.3	*6.9*	*7.7*	*
October	33.4	31.0	29.8	1.2	2.4	*7.1*	*7.2*	*
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. R: Revised

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XII

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1974								
January	45.4	42.5	41.0	1.5	2.9	6.4	7.0	*
February	45.1	42.9	41.4	1.5	2.2	4.9	6.2	*
March	45.5	43.4	41.7	1.7	2.1	4.6	6.3	*
April	45.6	43.1	41.4	1.7	2.5	5.5	6.7	*
May	45.8	43.4	41.5	1.9	2.4	5.2	6.6	.5
June	46.4	43.6	41.6	2.0	2.8	6.0	7.2	.5
July	46.6	44.1	42.1	2.0	2.5	5.4	6.7	*
August	46.2	44.0	42.0	2.0	2.2	4.8	6.5	*
September	46.2	43.9	42.3	1.6	2.3	5.0	6.5	*
October	46.2	43.9	42.0	1.9	2.3	5.0	6.6	*
November	45.6	43.2	41.4	1.8	2.4	5.3	7.0	*
December	45.8	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.3	5.0	7.0	*
1974 Avg.	45.9	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.4	5.3	6.7	*
1975								
January	46.9	44.0	42.3	1.7	2.9	6.2	7.0	*
February	46.6	43.3	41.6	1.7	3.3	7.0	8.1	*
March	46.5	43.3	41.7	1.6	3.2	7.0	8.0	.1
April	47.3	43.7	42.2	1.5	3.6	7.6	8.5	*
May	47.3	44.3	42.8	1.5	3.0	6.3	8.2	*
June	47.3	44.2	42.7	1.5	3.1	6.5	8.4	*
July	47.8	44.7	43.3	1.4	3.1	6.5	8.1	*
August	48.2	45.0	43.4	1.6	3.2	6.5	8.0	*
September	48.6	45.4	43.9	1.5	3.2	6.6	8.1	.2
October	48.0	44.8	43.2	1.6	3.2	6.7	8.3	.2
November	49.0	45.9	44.2	1.7	3.1	6.3	8.2	*
December	49.0	45.8	44.0	1.8	3.2	6.6	8.6	*
1975 Avg.	47.7	44.5	42.9	1.6	3.2	6.7	8.1	*
1976								
January	49.0	45.8	44.0	1.8	3.2	6.6	8.1	*
February	48.8	45.9	44.2	1.7	2.9	6.0	7.8	*
March	48.7	45.6	44.0	1.6	3.1	6.4	8.3	*
April	48.7	45.7	44.1	1.6	3.0	6.2	7.6	*
May	47.9	45.3	43.8	1.5	2.6	5.5	7.7	*
June	48.9	45.7	44.2	1.5	3.2	6.5	8.4	*
July	48.7R	45.7R	44.4R	1.3	3.0	6.2R	8.5R	*
August	48.7	45.8	44.3	1.5	2.9	5.9	8.4	*
September	49.9	47.2	45.8	1.4	2.7	5.4	7.7	*
October	49.9	47.2	45.8	1.4	2.7	5.4	7.7	*
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* R: *Revised*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIII

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976	Oct. 1975	Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976	Oct. 1975	Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976	Oct. 1975
TOTAL PRIVATE	$176.72	$178.92	$165.98	35.7	36.0	36.4	$4.95	$4.97	$4.56
MANUFACTURING	257.30	260.65	206.27	41.3	40.6	37.3	6.23	6.42	5.53
Durable Goods	249.23	246.69	204.23	42.1	41.6	37.2	5.92	5.93	5.49
Primary Metal Industries	279.36	289.17	247.78	38.8	37.8	39.9	7.20	7.65	6.21
Nondurable Goods	245.17	256.74	211.69	39.8	38.1	37.6	6.16	6.72	5.63
Food and Kindred Products	224.47	237.76	186.53	40.3	36.3	38.7	5.57	6.55	4.82
MINING	308.74	299.88	292.37	43.0	42.0	44.5	7.18	7.14	6.57
Metal Mining	313.58	295.50	298.74	41.7	39.4	42.8	7.52	7.50	6.98
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	327.51	337.59	290.03	39.6	40.5	36.9	8.27	8.34	7.86
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	275.26	277.47	260.41	40.9	41.6	41.8	6.73	6.67	6.23
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	253.13	254.16	235.22	40.5	40.6	39.8	6.25	6.26	5.91
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	141.75	142.96	129.60	35.0	35.3	35.8	4.05	4.05	3.62
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	123.46	123.87	117.71	36.1	35.9	36.9	3.42	3.46	3.19
SERVICES	107.76	110.62	104.97	30.1	30.9	32.2	3.58	3.58	3.26

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table XIV

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

SEPTEMBER 1976

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Sep 1976	Aug 1976	Sep 1975	Sep 1976	Aug 1976	Sep 1975	Sep 1976	Aug 1976	Sep 1975	Sep 1976	Aug 1976	Sep 1975	Sep 1976	Aug 1976	Sep 1975
MANUFACTURING	5.4	3.1	4.0	5.0	2.8	3.3	4.4	3.5	2.8	3.3	2.3	3.1	0.4	0.7	1.2
Durable Goods	3.5	2.9	4.0	3.2	2.6	3.3	4.5	3.5	1.9	3.4	2.4	3.3	0.4	0.5	0.8
Primary Metal Industries	1.8	1.3	2.4	0.9	0.4	0.1	3.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	1.0	0.3	0.5	1.4	1.6
Nondurable Goods	8.6	3.4	3.8	8.2	3.1	3.1	4.3	3.7	4.5	3.3	2.2	2.5	0.4	1.0	2.2
MINING	5.3	2.5	3.1	2.3	1.6	1.6	2.1	5.4	4.9	0.6	0.8	1.9	0.9	2.8	1.5
Metal Mining	0.9	2.3	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.0	2.1	5.5	0.5	0.2	1.4	0.7	0.2	1.8

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	OCT. 1976	OCT. 1975	Year to Date 1976	Year to Date 1975
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	28	26	250	248
MINING	12	5	96	53
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	62	32	464	296
MANUFACTURING	13	6	127	91
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	13	7	95	61
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	98	46	635	488
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	26	18	237	182
SERVICES	129	94	879	823
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	3	0	21	2
STATE TOTAL	384	234	2804	2244

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	OCT. 1976	OCT. 1975	1976	1975
STATE OF MONTANA	384	234	2804	2244
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35	19	248	207
BILLINGS SMSA	75	33	475	338
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	23	16	214	162
Beaverhead	1	1	27	34
Deer Lodge	1	2	27	19
Granite	0	1	6	3
Madison	4	3	22	21
Powell	4	2	20	12
Silver Bow	13	7	112	73
BOZEMAN LMA	36	20	236	194
Gallatin	31	17	196	159
Meagher	0	0	6	5
Park	5	3	34	30
GLASGOW LMA	13	14	114	92
Daniels	5	3	26	22
Phillips	0	1	5	14
Roosevelt	1	6	31	27
Sheridan	1	0	20	13
Valley	6	4	32	16
GLENDIVE LMA	15	11	87	92
Dawson	3	5	23	41
Garfield	1	1	6	9
McCone	3	0	12	10
Prairie	0	2	7	4
Richland	8	3	38	27
Wibaux	0	0	1	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	7	4	76	63
Big Horn	1	1	18	30
Carbon	4	2	24	10
Stillwater	1	0	17	13
Sweet Grass	1	1	17	10

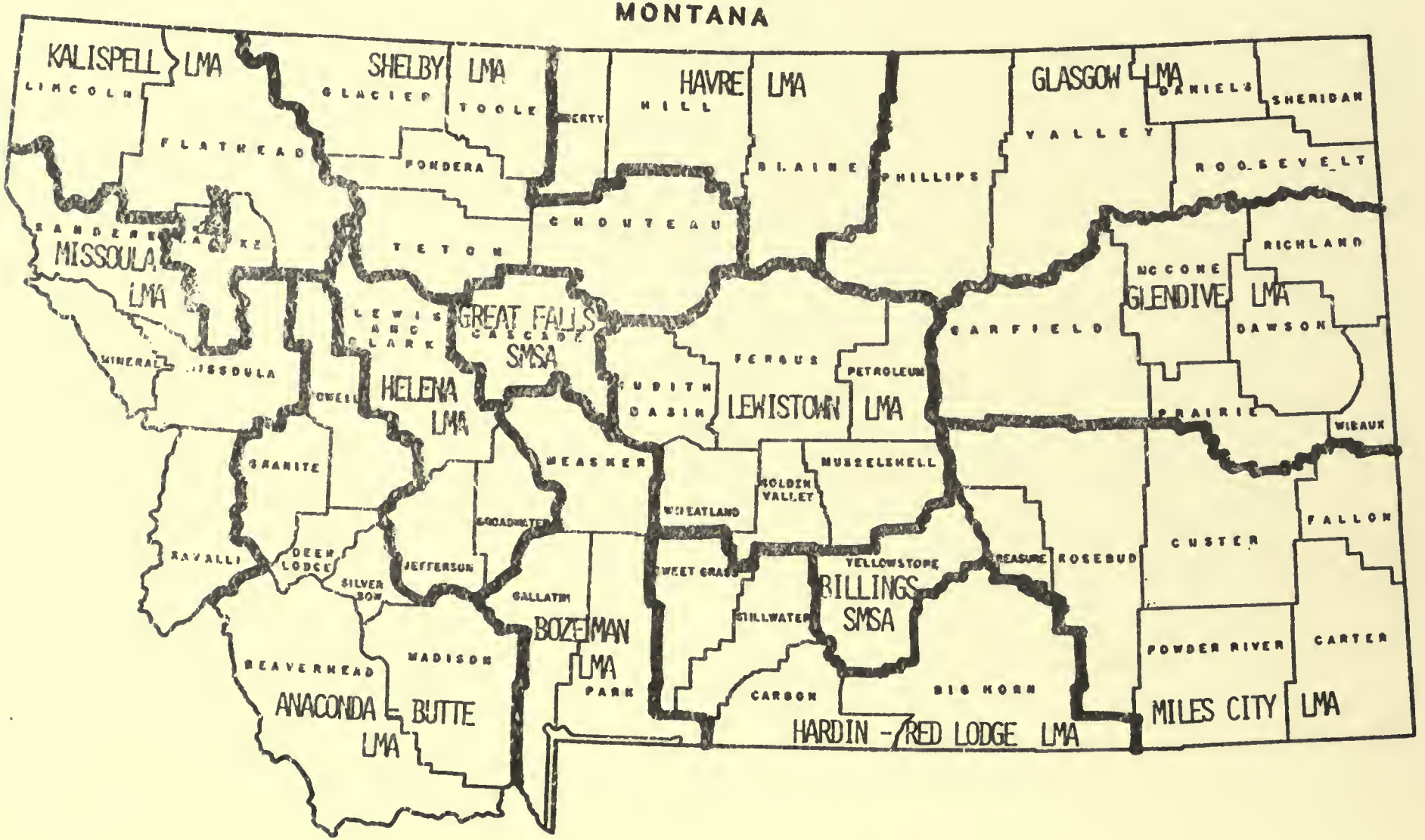
Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	OCT. 1976	OCT. 1975	1976	1975
HAVRE LMA	7	5	96	74
Blaine	1	1	13	16
Hill	6	3	69	53
Liberty	0	1	14	5
HELENA LMA	19	19	190	147
Broadwater	4	2	12	8
Jefferson	1	1	10	16
Lewis and Clark	14	16	168	123
KALISPELL LMA	46	26	345	246
Flathead	27	19	225	171
Lake	8	3	74	49
Lincoln	11	4	46	26
LEWISTOWN LMA	8	6	54	47
Fergus	5	5	32	33
Golden Valley	0	0	4	0
Judith Basin	0	0	1	1
Musselshell	1	1	12	8
Petroleum	0	0	2	0
Wheatland	2	0	3	5
MILES CITY LMA	23	8	132	104
Carter	1	0	6	4
Custer	11	6	65	49
Fallon	1	0	15	15
Powder River	1	0	12	5
Rosebud	9	2	31	26
Treasure	0	0	3	5
MISSOULA LMA	52	38	408	376
Mineral	2	2	14	7
Missoula	34	29	299	286
Ravalli	8	6	49	48
Sanders	8	1	46	35
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	25	15	129	102
Chouteau	2	3	18	12
Glacier	12	3	35	31
Pondera	6	5	31	28
Teton	1	1	25	14
Toole	4	3	20	17

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
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POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Service maintains 23 local employment offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.